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Snow White



Favorite Fairy Tales



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Snow White



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ong ago in a far-off land, a princess was born with hair as black as night, skin as white as snow, and lips the color of rubies. She was called Snow White.

As the baby grew into a little girl, she became more beautiful every year. Her stepmother, the Queen, was also very beautiful and so proud that she had a magical mirror made. Every day she would look in the mirror and ask,

“Mirror, mirror on the wall,
Who is fairest of us all?”

The mirror would answer, “You, my Queen, are fairest in the land.”

And the Queen was very pleased, because she knew that it was true.







ut one day when Snow White had grown to be a young maiden, the Queen asked,

“Mirror, mirror on the wall,
Who is fairest of us all?”

And the mirror replied,

“You, my Queen, may lovely be,
But Snow White’s fairer still than thee.”

The Queen was very angry for she couldn’t stand to have anyone be prettier than she. From that time on, she hated Snow White. When she could no longer bear to look at the beautiful princess, she called a woodsman and ordered him to take Snow White away and kill her.

The man, fearing for his own life, took the girl deep into the forest but could not bring himself to kill her. Instead he left Snow White there alone.





now White found herself alone in the dark woods. All around her were mysterious noises and deep shadows. She was so frightened she began to run. Tree branches caught at her black hair as she ran through the forest. Wild beasts watched her, but they did not harm the beautiful girl.

She ran as fast and as far as she could, until she saw a little cottage with a red roof. When no one answered her knocks, Snow White went inside.

There she found a little table set with seven plates, and seven little beds all lined up against the wall. The hungry princess nibbled a bit of food from each plate, then threw herself down on the seventh bed and fell fast asleep.







ow, seven dwarfs shared that little cottage. Soon they came back from the gold and copper mines where they worked. How surprised they were to find Snow White sleeping in their home!

They let the lovely girl sleep until morning, then asked her how she had found her way to their cottage deep in the woods. When they heard Snow White's story they felt sorry for her and asked her to stay. She took care of the cottage, and they gave her food, shelter, and friendship in return.







now White was happy living with the dwarfs. But one day back at the castle, the evil Queen again asked,

“Mirror, mirror on the wall,
Who is fairest of us all?”

The mirror replied,

“You, my Queen, may lovely be,
But Snow White’s fairer still than thee.”

Then the Queen knew that Snow White still lived. She decided to kill the girl herself. She disguised herself as an ugly old woman and appeared at the dwarfs’ cottage. She called out, “Belts for sale! Buy my pretty belts!”

Snow White saw no danger in letting her in, and she tried on one of the lovely silken belts. The Queen pulled the belt so tight around the girl’s waist that she fell as if dead.





he dwarfs returned to find Snow White lying on the floor. Right away they saw that the girl's belt was too tight and cut it off with a knife. She began to breathe again and told them what had happened.

The dwarfs realized that the old woman must have been the evil Queen, and they warned Snow White to be very careful. Above all, she must not open the door to anyone.

Meanwhile, at the castle, the Queen asked once more,

“Mirror, mirror on the wall,
Who is fairest of us all?”

When the mirror answered that Snow White was still the fairest, the Queen shook with rage, and vowed that Snow White must die.





he evil Queen set out again in a new disguise. This time, she offered to sell Snow White a lovely comb. Snow White took the comb—through the window this time—and put it in her hair. She fell where she stood, for the comb was poisoned.

The dwarfs soon came home. They realized at once that the comb was poisoned and quickly took it from Snow White's hair before it killed her. Back at the castle, the Queen asked yet again,

“Mirror, mirror on the wall,
Who is fairest of us all?”

When she learned that the girl still lived, she used all her magic to make a single perfect, poisoned apple.







hen she dressed herself as a poor woman and went once more to see Snow White. She offered the girl the apple, and Snow White could not resist it, for part of the apple's magic was that all who saw it must taste it. Snow White bit into the fruit and instantly fell down as if dead.

When the Queen returned to the castle, her mirror told her at last, "Queen, thou art fairest of us all!"

The dwarfs could not wake Snow White, but she looked as healthy and pretty as if she were only sleeping. They laid her in a glass case so they could watch over her.







One day a Prince was hunting in the woods. He came upon the girl lying in the glass case and thought she was the most beautiful girl he had ever seen. He fell in love with her right away. But he believed the glass box must be part of some evil enchantment, so he opened the case and lifted Snow White in his arms.

As the Prince picked up Snow White, the piece of poisoned apple fell from her mouth, and she awoke. She opened her eyes to find herself in the arms of the Prince!





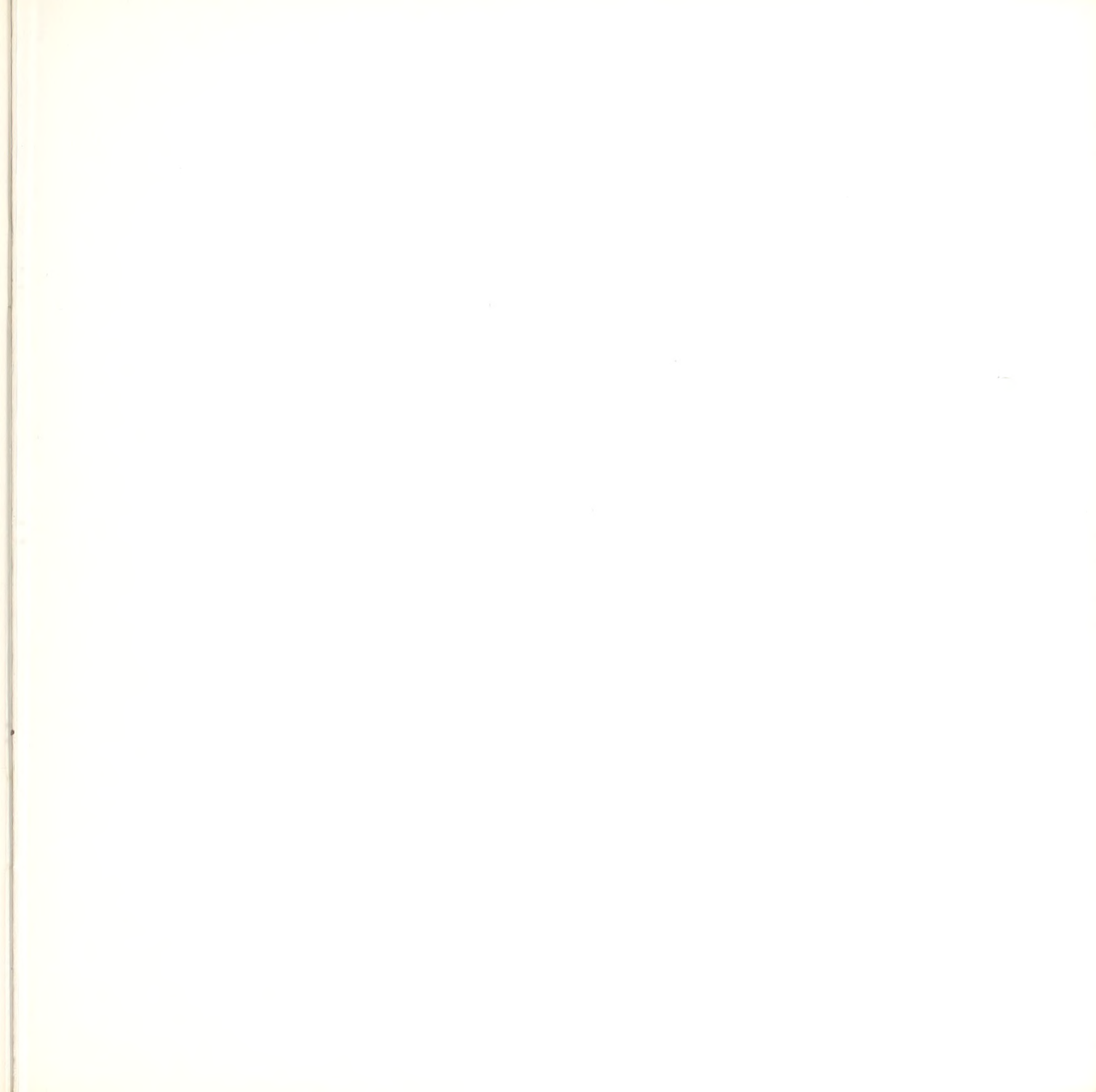
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hen the dwarfs learned that Snow White was alive, they danced with joy and agreed happily that she should marry the Prince.

As for the Queen, her hatred made her so ugly that she could no longer bear to look in her mirror. She finally smashed it in a fit of rage and so never knew of Snow White's happiness.









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